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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/017,983	12/13/2001	Masaaki Harasawa	4293	8381

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, SON V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2839	

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/017,983

Applicant(s)

Harasawa et al.

Examiner

Son Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on Dec 13, 2001 is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 3, 4

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because of the cross hatching does not conform to the guidelines as set out in MPEP section 608.02. In particular, the cross-hatching of the insulative portion of a housing [110], first and second articles [210, 220] and insulation/jacket of a cable in figures 1, 6, 8, 10 and 13-15, should be cross-hatched with alternating thick and thin diagonal lines. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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Claim 1, lines 5 and 6, there is no antecedent basis for “the first article” and “the second article.”

Claims 2, line 3, it is unclear whether applicant intended by “an article” and “the article” to be the same as a first article or a second article in claim 1.

Claims 3-4, lines 3 and 6, it is unclear whether applicant intended by “an article” and “the article” to be the same as a first article or a second article in claim 1. In line 4, there is no antecedent basis for “the longitudinal wall of the concave part.” In line 5, there is no antecedent basis for “the concave part.”

Claims 5-8, line 3, it is unclear whether applicant intended by “an article” and “the article” to be the same as a first article or a second article in claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Madsen et al. (US 5,980,322).

Madsen et al. discloses an electrical connector [figures 4 and 7-10] assembly comprising:

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a connector [140] having a housing [96] and a plurality of contacts [98] disposed therein, each contact having a connecting part [100] and a contacting part [120];

- the housing having a latching member [124] being engaging with a resilient latch member [130] read on applicant's an elastic wing and a locking paw formed on a first article [114];

- the first article [114] having a conductive part [not shown] being terminated with the connecting part [100]; and

- the housing is fitted in a concave part of the first article [figure 4].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 3-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Madsen et al.

Madsen et al. discloses the instant claimed invention except for the resilient latch formed on the housing and the latch member formed on the first article. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to arrange the resilient member [128] from the first article to the housing, and to arrange the latch member [124] from

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the housing to the first article, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70.

9. Claims 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Madsen et al. and Arnett (US 6,102,722).

Madsen et al. discloses the instant claimed invention except for the connecting end of the contact comprises an insulation displacement connector (IDC).

Arnett discloses a contact [54, figure 2] having a connecting end is an insulation displacement connector (IDC).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the contacting end of Madsen et al. to provide the IDC as taught by Hsu '214 for the purpose of facilitate terminating the wire as well known in the art of the electrical connectors.

Conclusion

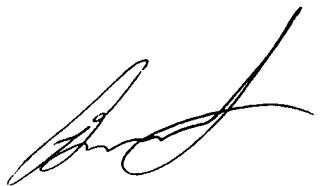
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-8745.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reach on (703) 308-3119. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

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Son Nguyen

July 21, 2002



BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800